



THE CLARENDON Enterprise

08.07.2025

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THIS WEEK

- 2** Local control can be messy but it's better than state control.
- 4** TxDOT urges drivers to watch out for students.
- 6** Construction continues on US 287 bridge.
- 8** Clarendon College athletes earn NJCAA recognition.

All this and much more as The Enterprise reports in this week's amazing edition!

Senior Citizens plan 50th anniversary

The Donley County Senior Citizens will hold their 50th Anniversary Celebration and Fund-raiser Saturday, August 16, from 5 to 8 p.m. at 115 E. 4th.

Activities will include dinner and a show, music, cowboy poetry, comedy skits, a 50/50 raffle, and a quilt raffle.

Cookbooks will be for sale also.

Bring your chair, appetite, and a sense of humor to celebrate this milestone.

Tax hearings set for local governments

August brings opportunities for citizens to get involved in their local governments with public hearings set for tax rates and budgets.

Public notices this week include two small taxing unit notices. The Donley County Hospital District will hold a tax rate meeting at 5:30 p.m. on August 13 at 3 Medical Drive, and the City of Howardwick will hold a budget and tax rate hearing on August 12 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Clarendon College will hold a tax rate hearing on August 21 at 5:45 in the VIP Room of the Bairfield Activity Center, and Hedley CISD will hold a budget and tax rate meeting on August 18 at 6:00 p.m. in the board room.

Other public notices this week include a Sheriff Sale notice on September 2 at 2:00 p.m. on the steps of the Donley County Courthouse that will include properties from seven delinquent taxpayers, and a notice from a telecommunications company regarding a cell tower in Donley County.

School supplies to be distributed Aug. 7

Christ's Kids Outreach Ministries will offer free basic school supplies Thursday, August 7, at the Christ's Kids Ministry Center 416 S. Kearney, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. All students are welcome. This service covers basic supplies only.

Local classes start August 12 and 13

It's almost school time again with Hedley students returning August 12 and Clarendon students starting August 13. For registration and more information, see our Back to School section on ClarendonLive.com



CCISD reboots super search, shuffles admins

Clarendon CISD has reorganized its administrative team while it reboots its search for a new superintendent.

After none of its three superintendent finalists were selected for the job, a new search will be undertaken.

Interim Superintendent Rick Teran said the three finalists just weren't the right fit for the school

and so the board decided to conduct a new search.

The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) will continue to handle the search at no extra cost to the district, Teran said. The school will re-advertise the position beginning in October.

In addition, another school administrator is leaving the district.

Clarendon High School Principal John Moffett has accepted the job of superintendent at Happy ISD effective August 18, Teran said.

Elementary and junior high counselor Erin Shaw is taking the job of being principal for both CHS and Clarendon Junior High, and CJH Principal Jenifer Pigg is moving to the elementary principal position.

The school has also dealt with an issue of mold in the high school building over the past week. Teran said two classrooms and the auditorium were locked up after carpets were cleaned but not before the carpets were dry, which resulted in a mold outbreak. Remediation of the mold has already been conducted, and Teran said the district was await-

ing results of a second test for mold before moving forward with installing new carpet in those rooms this week.

Teran said all work should be completed in time for classes to start. CCISD students return next Wednesday, August 13, with registration this week on Thursday and Friday, August 7 and 8.



Broncos return

Members of the Clarendon Broncos football team run drills with Coach Stan Caffey Tuesday morning in preparation for the fall season. Athletic Director Jeff Caffey says 46 young men will be suiting up for football this year, which will allow the program to have a junior varsity squad. The Broncos will scrimmage Stratford next Friday, August 15, in Borger.

ENTERPRISE PHOTO

CCISD plans Back to School Bash

The Clarendon CISD Parent, Family & Community Back to School Bash will be held Monday, August 11 in coordination with Meet the Teacher Night and Meet the Broncos.

Clarendon Elementary School parents and students will meet at the Colt Gym at 5:00 for a brief Title I meeting prior to meeting their teachers. Students with last names

beginning with N-Z will meet their teachers immediately following the meeting until 5:35. Students with last names beginning with A-M will meet their teachers from approximately 5:40 -6:00.

All elementary students and their parents are invited to go over to the stadium after meeting their teachers.

Clarendon JH teachers will

be in their rooms to greet and meet their students from 5:00-5:30 and then students and their parents can go over to the football field.

All parents, students and community members are invited to the Back to School Bash at the stadium from 5:45 - 6:45. Everyone is invited to come out and eat a BBQ sandwich beginning at 5:45.

Organizations will be sell-

ing homemade ice cream, tea, and lemonade. Those in attendance can sign-up that night for Adopt-A-Bronco, Little Miss Cheer and Donley County 4-H. Games will be available for kids to play until 6:45.

The District will hold its annual Title I meeting that evening at 6:30. The evening will wrap up with the annual Meet the Broncos event starting at 6:45.

Dirt work begins on St. Mary's

Dirt work began last week on the new St. Mary's Catholic Church began dirt work on a new sanctuary after nine years of planning and fundraising.

Building committee member Chriss Clifford said the new 80-foot by 40-foot church building will extend from the west end of the Parish Hall, which was completed in 2016. She estimates construction will take six to seven months to complete.

"I'd like to be in by Christmas, but I don't know if it's possible because we were behind starting dirt work," Clifford said.

St. Mary's original 1892 building was demolished in 2019 after it was found to be structurally unsound and unsavable following a 2016 incident where a car ran into the historic



Artist's conception of the new St. Mary's Catholic Church building.

structure.

The new church will have several features of the original building, Clifford said. The stained-glass windows were saved and will be reinstalled in the new church, some original bead board will be included in the new narthex, and the original

altar and prayer rail will also be utilized.

Fundraising for the new church has been going on since 2016 and will continue this Friday, August 8, with a St. Mary's Fish Fry from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 510 E. Montgomery.

With construction started on the new church building, everyone is asked to please enter through the east door of the Parish Hall.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children. Proceeds benefit the church building fund. Call-in orders are welcome at 806-874-3910.

Enterprise earns wins national recognition

The National Newspaper Association has recognized THE CLARENDON ENTERPRISE for outstanding journalism during the NNA's annual Better Newspaper Contest.

The ENTERPRISE was recently notified that it has received a second place award and two honorable mentions from the NNA, awards that will be presented during the association's annual conference this October in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Editorials focused on anti-abortion activist Mark Lee Dickson's efforts to pass an ordinance in Clarendon won the ENTERPRISE Second Place Best Editorial in the Non-daily Division for papers with print circulations less than 2,000. The paper also received Honorable Mention in the same division for Best Reporting on Local Government for its coverage of the Clarendon City Council during Dickson's efforts.

The ENTERPRISE was also recognized with Honorable Mention for Front Page Design.

There were 1,546 entries in the Better Newspaper Editorial Contest and 196 entries in the Better Newspaper Advertising Contest for a total of 1,743 entries. There were 712 awards won by 102 newspapers in 33 states.

Judges praised the publications for engaging their community, keeping them informed, and providing commentary that keeps a paper at the heart of the community.

The Wyoming Press Association was awarded the sixth annual "Best of NNA" Award for their 119 winning entries, beating out California with 88 wins and Texas with 56 wins. This is their fifth award for excellence in editorial and advertising.

The winner's book and a list of awards by newspaper are available here: <https://www.nnafoundation.org/better-newspaper-contest>

Judging was performed primarily by active community newspaper editors and publishers, as well as retired university journalism professors and retired or former newspaper professionals. A judge said, "Stories like this remind readers why newspapers continue to play an important role in their daily lives."

Established in 1885, the National Newspaper Association (NNA) is the voice of America's community newspapers and is one of the largest newspaper associations in the country. The NNA Foundation (NNAF) is the educational arm of the NNA. Its mission is to promote news literacy, protect the First Amendment, and enhance the quality, role and capabilities of community newspapers and community journalists.

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Hollywood scandal site transformed into paradise

As part of my son’s graduation celebration my in-laws flew the family down to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. We spent a week in a tropical paradise enjoying the beauty and the friendly people.

While it was hot – obviously part of being tropical – I can see why people enjoy the city so much today. The city’s crescent-shaped bay created long sandy beaches that are appealing today as well for the Spanish who first colonized it. But what really put Puerto Vallarta on the map was a good old fashioned Hollywood sex scandal.

In the early 1500s, Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés had set up his Pacific Coast headquarters at Acapulco, Mexico, but needed a northern location to help protect the silver trade route to the Philippine Islands. With a 25mile coastline to use as a harbor, Puerto Vallarta seemed to be the perfect bay.

I heard a couple different stories about how the bay got its name. One legend is that when the Spanish came ashore, they were confronted by the local indigenous tribe, but before they were attacked, a Spanish priest called upon God for help.

Suddenly, one of the Spanish flags began to glow, terrifying the locals who fled allowing the Spanish to claim the bay.

Today it’s named the Bahía of Banderas or, in English, the Bay of Flags. However, a tour guide said the natives who confronted the Spanish had feathers on their spears and that is where the name originates. In reality, it has been said that the natives probably recognized the Spanish flags from an earlier, ship-wrecked expedition that had killed most of its crew. The flags had probably washed ashore along with the bodies.

There is not much known of the area for the next 300 years, but in the 1850s the town of Puerto Las Peñas had been established on the shore as a shipping hub for local banana plantations. The next change came in 1918 when the town’s name was changed to Puerto Vallarta in honor of its former governor, Ignacio Vallarta.

The real changed happened in 1964 when Hollywood came to the sleepy little Mexican coastal town. What little was known about the town made it perfect for Oscar-winning film director John Huston’s newest project. Huston, a legend for having directed movies like “The Treasure of the Sierra Madre,” “The Asphalt Jungle,” “The African Queen,” “Heaven Knows, Mr. Allison” and “The Misfits,” was taking on his next project, “The Night of the Iguana,” a play of the same name written by Tennessee Williams. The movie follows a defrocked priest-turned-tour guide who, while stranded at a rundown Mexican hotel with a group of troubled women, confronts his inner demons and seeks redemption through his interactions with an empathetic artist and her elderly poet grandfather.

The movie had an all-star cast including Ava Gardner and Deborah Kerr, but most importantly, the lead was Richard Burton, a mega star for having done films like “The Robe” and “The Longest Day,” but most importantly “Cleopatra.” During the filming of “Cleopatra,” Burton met and fell in love with costar Elizabeth Taylor. The problem with the budding romance was that they were both married, Burton to actress Sibyl Williams; Taylor to singer and actor Eddie Fisher (father of Carrie Fisher, aka Princess Leah).

As “Cleopatra” finished shooting and the affair became public, Burton went to Puerto Vallarta to begin filming “Night of the Iguana.” Huston liked filming on location as a way to get actors away from their comfort zones and the overzealous press. When it was learned that Taylor followed Burton to location – and it was rumored that Taylor did not trust Gardner – the press followed. The only thing more tempting to the Hollywood press than a power couple was a sex scandal. When the two are combined, it’s like a perfect storm brewing.

In the process of covering the affair, the press also showed off the miles of pristine beaches, beautiful mountain landscapes and colonial architecture. The free publicity was enough to intrigue Americans, and it did not hurt that Huston bought the home they stayed in, Casa Kimberly, and gave it to Taylor for her 32nd birthday present. After that, Taylor, Burton and their families and friends spent a lot of time in the city, adding to its allure.

Today, the city of Puerto Vallarta has more than 220,000 people and is Mexico’s second most popular tourist destination after Cancun. After spending a week lounging by its pools and beachfronts, I can see why. Yet the one warning I must give is that a love story might have put the city on the map, but “Predator” was also filmed here, so be careful before exploring the jungle.

James Finck is a professor of American history at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. He may be reached at HistoricallySpeaking1776@gmail.com.



historically speaking
by dr. james finck

Don’t give up local control to Austin

This week in our little community in Spearman, we have experienced first-hand the messy, complicated business of local government. Facing funding challenges, our city manager filed a preliminary deficit budget, and I wrote a story about it to raise awareness with the community. What has followed in the days since could be a case study for political junkies.

The Spearman City Council is experiencing a real budget crisis, caught between public frustration over taxes and widespread confusion about how the tax process actually works. But here’s the good news: we’re having the conversation. It’s loud and messy – on Facebook, at the coffee shop, and at youth summer sports events – but it’s ours. Neighbors are talking to neighbors, asking tough questions, and pushing for solutions that reflect our community’s values.

What we don’t need is Austin making things harder. Local communities know their needs better than anyone – and they deserve the freedom to make decisions without interference from politicians at the Capitol.

Today’s article serves as a reminder of the importance of local control, especially for Rural Red communities, and it’s timely, so I feel a responsibility to connect the dots for you.

The Republican Party of Texas has included a directive on its platform to “Ban Taxpayer Funded Lobbying,” and the Governor has placed this on the Special Session call for the Texas Legislature to work on over the next 30 days. The Texas Senate has fast-tracked SB 12 in committee this past week, while Austin advocates are working aggressively to see this bill pass.

Austin is using their own lobbyists to push for the ban, which is ironic, and they will capitalize on the pain taxpayers are feeling due to higher taxes and the consideration of local budgets playing out in our communities. And also use the blame game aimed at Kerrville officials to make their case that your local government is failing you.

The Texas Public Policy Foundation, a “conservative” think tank funded by Austin insiders and billionaires, leads the charge. TPPF has launched an all-out assault on school districts and local governments by producing “debt reports” that aggregate local debt into one single astronomical number, creating outrage and a sense of urgency for the “ban.” They used this same tactic to discredit and destroy public schools during the voucher debate.

If they can get you mad enough at your local government, they can convince you to support the elimination of the very groups who support your locally elected folks in Austin – shifting the power were they want it – away from we the people – and into the hands of their lobbyists and the special interests so they can control outcomes at the Capitol.

I know this sounds over the top, but it is reality. And it’s a fact that rural and

small communities depend on the associations being targeted by the legislation. The passage of a banning bill will leave our local schools, towns, and counties without a voice to represent our communities in Austin.

The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), Texas Association of Counties (TAC), and the Texas Municipal League (TML) are reputable organizations that provide essential training to help our local elected officials do a better job for us. They also stay up-to-date with the changes happening in Austin and serve as watchdogs and advocates for our communities, because our elected officials can’t travel to Austin every time the Legislature starts to fool with local decision-making. If you ban these critical organizations from working for us at the Capitol, you will be centralizing power in Austin, and it’s the most serious threat to local control. For the Republicans on my readers list – local control is a Conservative thing, am I right? See, it’s confusing.

Here are the main reasons Legislators should oppose this bill:

Local governments need a way to stay in the conversation. Joining associations is often the only affordable option for rural communities that can’t spare staff or elected officials to make the weekly trip to Austin.

If SB 12 passes, small and remote communities will lose their voice on fast-moving legislation that impacts public schools, emergency response, and special education – while urban areas with legal departments keep their seat at the table.

This bill creates a lopsided playing field where big business can lobby freely, but small-town governments are shut out of the process altogether. That’s not transparency – that’s silencing.

The idea that local leaders shouldn’t be able to advocate for their communities undermines the very idea of local control. For rural towns, that advocacy often means the difference between fair policy and devastating outcomes.

We’ve seen how local representation can stop harmful legislation in its tracks – from protecting our water to blocking overreach. SB 12 doesn’t fix a problem – it tips the scales against small-town Texas.

It’s not necessary for the Legislature to ban the folks lobbying for local control, but instead, here are some things the Legislature can do that will help the taxpayers:

Fix the appraisal system in Texas, which is driving the taxes on local taxpayers up with no rhyme or reason. I live in a stagnant community economically, and yet one homeowner’s reported home value increased by \$51,000 for no appar-



guest commentary
by suzanne bellsnyder

ent reason. Some of the homes in our community are valued on the tax rolls at a level above what they could even sell for on the market. It’s time for Austin to do the hard work and fix this ridiculous situation.

It would be beneficial to require ALL cities, counties, and school districts to livestream their meetings and post current and past agendas, minutes and budget information online. Provide a grant program to small communities to help purchase the equipment they need. We need more citizens engaged in government at all levels. Transparency and accountability are a significant part of the answer, and the technology is available. So, if the state wants to mandate such measures on local government, this is one that I would sign off on.

Professionalize the administrative roles in local government and support training with funding. Small and rural governments struggle to recruit professional administrators and managers with experience. One fix might be to require more training, especially for the financial officers, who should complete a government budgeting training program within one year and require continuing education. This would be especially valuable in small communities where the manager might play a dual role of financial officer and lacks the government budget training that leads to best practices.

There is urgency to fix the tax system and address flooding. More transparency and accountability should be mandated for local governments. But the attempts at taking away local control by “banning” vital associations should be taken completely off the table.

After all, dear conservatives, a ban on anything does not produce liberty.

While SB 12 is likely to fly through the Senate, we can hopefully count on our reliable Panhandle friend Rep Ken King (R) - Canadian in the House to hold the line. King is the Chairman of the powerful State Affairs Committee, where this bill has been referred in the past, and there has historically been no support for a ban among a majority of committee members. Once again, rural Texas is the voice of reason.

Truth be told, the legislature meets in a special session for only 30 days, and priorities such as addressing communications and response to the Central Texas flooding should take center stage. Let’s focus on the things that matter and leave this banning nonsense on the granite steps of the Capitol.

Don’t let the Austin lobbyists convince you to give away your local control. The day we have to ask permission from the Capitol to fix our roads, fund law enforcement, or maintain our parks is the day we’ve lost what makes local government work. Let’s keep decision-making where it belongs – right here at home, especially when it’s messy and complicated.

Suzanne Bellsnyder is the publisher of the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman and the online Texas Rural Reporter.



Where do the get those drug names?

Now one thing’s for dang shore, everwho come up with drugstore language should be roped and dragged out in the brush and wearin’ a big sign that jest says “Guilty.” No need to get more infinitesimal than that until he’s through bouncin’ through the puckerbrush.

As I’m shore you know, since our choice of subject today is arithmetics and has to do with the language we speak, this here is yore ol’ pal and philosopher Windy Wilson. Slim usually does these, but he looks the other way sometimes if I sneak by him. You know. Only when it’s a universal primal-chordium that applicates to all of us, of course.

So here’s the skinny, and I’m shore you recognize it, too. Drugstore language was invented by some guy who

thought he was educationin’ the world by teachin’ ‘em a new language. Used to be, there was aspirin. Now that ain’t too bad. Spelled it right, too, cuz we been starin’ at it by the sink since Spot was a pup.

But you know how them educators get. You don’t stop at aspirin, oh no, you gotta rename all the pills ever made so no one can pronounce ‘em. Like Tramexabuterol. That one has somethin’ to do with curin’ the miseries, but I don’t remeberate which part of you needs to be fixed.



home country
by slim randles

But don’t you worry, cuz them druggist guys and doctor guys went to college for a hunnert years to learn that, and it’s dang few that want to share. Wouldn’t it be a heckuva lot easier to jest walk in and ask for a pill to make it easier to use the ... little house? You know. But that would jest make sense and would embarrass the doctors and nurses and pharmacinders in our lives cuz they couldn’t show off any more.

Wish we could try it out, like askin’ for a bottle of Leftleglimpnomore or Catchanoserrunnin’. That’s why it takes down-to-earth kinda filosofofickals like me to set the tone for universality-type improvements. And you can tell ‘em I said so. Slim Randles’ Home Country is brought to you by Tractor Supply Company. A nice way to find feed, seed, and things you need.

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DEADLINES

News articles and photos are due by Monday at noon. Advertising and Classifieds are due by five o’clock Monday afternoon. Deadlines may be altered for holidays or special issues.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are available for \$25 digitally or \$50 for print plus digital. POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to: The Clarendon Enterprise, PO Box 1110, Clarendon, TX 79226-1110.

LETTERS

Letters to the editor are welcome. Views expressed in letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff of The Clarendon Enterprise. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. Letters may be edited for grammar, style, or length. All letters must be signed and must include an address and telephone number for verification. To improve your chances of publication, type and double space your letter, stick to one main topic, and keep it brief. No letters will be accepted from candidates for local political offices. Letters submitted to this newspaper become the property of The Enterprise and cannot be returned.

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The Texas Panhandle’s First Newspaper

THE CLARENDON NEWS, established June 1, 1878 with which have merged: The Clarendon Traveler, February 1889; The Clarendon Journal, November 1891; The Banner-Stockman, October 1893; The Agitator, February 1899; The Clarendon Times, May 1908; The Donley County Leader, March 12, 1929; The Clarendon Press, May 18, 1972; and The Clarendon Enterprise, March 14, 1996.

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Who cares about public notices?

YOU SHOULD

**You have the right to know what's happening
in your community.**

Public notices – information local governments are obligated to provide citizens – are required to be published in local newspapers to provide a public record that's accessible to everyone.

Public notices keep you informed about your government.

But, in some states legislators are trying to keep public notices from appearing in local newspapers. This severely impacts government transparency and, in turn, limits the public's right to hold them accountable for their actions.

Let your state legislators know that you value being able to access notices in your newspaper and that they are worth the investment.

Protect public notices
in newspapers and
protect **your** right to know.

THE CLARENDON
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newspapers.org/public-notices

America's
Newspapers

America's Newspapers is a national association supporting journalism and healthy newspapers in our local communities. Find out more at www.newspapers.org or follow us on Twitter @newspapersorg or on Facebook @americasnewspapers.

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¿Qué Pasa?

Community Calendar

August 7
Clarendon CISD • Returning Students Registration • 2:00 p.m - 5:00 p.m.

August 8
Clarendon CISD • New Students Registration • 9:00 a.m.

August 9
Bronco Booster Tournament
Clarendon Country Club • Call 806-874-2166

August 11
Meet the Teachers • Clarendon CISD • 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

August 11
Back to School Bash • Clarendon Elementary • 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

August 11
Meet the Teachers • Hedley ISD • 5:00 p.m

August 11
Meet the Owls • Hedley ISD • 6:00 p.m

August 12
Hedley ISD • First Day of School

August 13
Clarendon CISD • First Day of School

August 16
Donley County Senior Citizens Center 50th Anniversary Celebration • 4th & Gorst Streets • See ClarendonTX.com

August 23
Night Scramble • Clarendon Country Club • 806-874-2166

★

Menus

August 11 - 15

Donley County Senior Citizens
Mon: Chili dog w/bun, baked beans, marinated cucumbers & onions, oatmeal raisin cookie, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Pork roast, English peas, buttered carrots, whole wheat roll, banana pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Stuffed baked potato, shredded beef & pork, steamed broccoli, hot roll, pineapple cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: chicken enchiladas, pinto beans, garden salad, chocolate cup cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Beef tips & noodles, broccoli & cauliflower, hot roll, chocolate cup cake, iced tea/2% milk

Hedley Senior Citizens
Mon: Enchilada casserole, garden salad, pinto beans, Spanish rice, sopapilla cheese-cake, iced tea/2% milk.
Tues: Mexican pile on, tortilla, pinto beans, Spanish rice, garden salad, sliced peaches w/ whipped topping, iced tea/2% milk.
Wed: Chicken fried steak w/ country gravy, homemade mashed potatoes, fruit, whole wheat buttermilk biscuit, sugar cookie, iced tea/2% milk.
Thurs: Roast w/brown gravy, spinach, whole wheat roll, banana pudding, iced tea/2% milk.
Fri: Steak fingers w/gravy, French fries, black eyed peas, whole wheat biscuit, iced tea/2% milk

Clarendon CISD
Breakfast
Mon: No School
Tues: No School
Wed: Breakfast sandwich, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Thu: Pancake wrap, yogurt, fruit, fruit juice, milk.
Fri: Cheesy toast, sausage, fruit, fruit juice, milk.

Lunch
Mon: No School
Tues: No School
Wed: Crispy chicken sandwich, veggie cup, salad, fruit, milk.
Thu: Salisbury steak, gravy, roll, broccoli, corn, orange smiles, fruit, milk.
Fri: Corn dog, potatoes, tomato cup, fruit, milk.

TxDOT reminds drivers to watch out for kids

As children across the state gather school supplies, say goodbye to summer and prepare for a new year of classes, Texas drivers are also getting ready for school traffic to return. That’s why the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is sharing driving tips to help keep kids safe in school zones and around school buses. By treating children, bus drivers and each other with kindness and respect, we can prevent crashes.

School zones can be hectic places with students hopping on and off buses or darting between cars to cross the street, and drivers may become distracted or impatient. Tragically, crashes can and do happen. Just last year, there were 781 traffic crashes in school zones and 2,480 collisions involving school buses in Texas.

Most of these crashes involved driver inattention or speeding, and some were deadly. Two people were killed in Texas school zone crashes last year and another 11 were killed in crashes involving school buses.

To prevent these tragedies, TxDOT is launching its “Be Safe. Drive Smart” Back to School safety campaign to urge drivers to slow down, avoid distractions and follow all traffic laws. As school starts again, it’s also a great time for parents and guardians to share school zone safety tips with young children.

Tips for driving in school zones
Look for flashing school zone lights in the morning and afternoon. Be aware that traffic patterns around schools may have changed since last year.

Stay alert and put your phone away. Using a handheld electronic device while driving in an active school zone is against the law.

Stop and yield the right of way to pedestrians, cyclists or other vulnerable road users in a crosswalk. The Lisa Torry Smith Act of 2021 enhanced the penalties for failing to follow the law and protect people in crosswalks. Seriously injuring someone who is lawfully in a crosswalk is now a state jail felony.

Obey school zone speed limits. Traffic fines increase in school zones.

Know where to go. Drop off and pick up your kids in your school’s designated areas, not in the middle of the street.

Be on the lookout for children gathered at bus stops.

Watch out for children who might dart across the street or between vehicles.

Tips for drivers sharing the road with school buses

Follow school buses at a safe distance. Remember they make frequent stops.

Stop for school buses. Do not pass a school bus if you see flashing

red lights or an extended stop sign, regardless of which direction you’re headed, unless the bus is on the opposite side of a divided highway. Continue once the bus has moved, the lights stop flashing or the bus driver signals it’s okay to pass.

Look out for children around buses and remember that they may not always look for vehicles before crossing the street.

Violations can result in a fine of up to \$1,250 for a first offense.

Tips for children walking or biking to school

Use sidewalks. If there’s not one, it’s best to walk on the left side of the street, facing traffic.

Cross the street only at intersections or marked crosswalks. Look left, right and left again before crossing.

Pay close attention to crossing guards and obey their instructions.

Make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street. Never assume a driver sees you.

Look both ways for traffic when stepping off a bus or from behind parked vehicles.

Always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle or scooter.

Stay alert. Phones or other electronic devices are distractions and can take your eyes and ears off the road. Follow all traffic rules, signs and signals.

USDA urges school lunch safety

Back-to-school shopping usually means backpacks, notebooks and lunchboxes. But don’t forget to add food safety to the list.

Young children, especially those under age five, are more likely to get seriously sick from food-borne illness. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) is reminding parents, caregivers, and anyone packing school lunches to follow a few simple food safety steps.

“As the school year begins, we want families to keep food safety top of mind,” said USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Administrator Dr. Justin Ransom. “Young children are more vulnerable to foodborne illness, and we want to make sure they stay healthy and ready to learn.”

Here are USDA’s top food safety tips for the school year.

Keep cold foods cold

Use at least two cold sources, such as gel packs, frozen water bottles, or frozen juice boxes. Place them on top and bottom of perishable items like meat, poultry, and eggs. This helps keep food out of the Danger Zone, which is between 40 and 140 degrees F. In this range, bacteria can grow quickly and cause illness.

Choose the right lunchbox: Use an insulated lunchbox. Paper bags are not a safe choice because they tear and leak as cold items thaw, which allows cold air to escape.

Keep hot foods hot: For hot foods like soup or chili, use an insulated container. Fill it with boiling water and let it sit for a few minutes before adding food. Dump out the water, add the hot food, and keep the lid closed until lunchtime. Hot foods should stay at 140 degrees F or higher.

Follow the four steps to food safety: Clean: Wash hands with soapy water for at least 20 seconds before, during, and after handling food. Clean and sanitize lunchboxes regularly. Separate: Keep raw meat and poultry separate from fruits, vegetables, and other ready-to-eat foods.

Discard any containers or bags that held raw items. Cook: Use a food thermometer to make sure foods are cooked to a safe internal temperature. Chill: Use two cold sources to keep perishable foods below 40 degrees F. Discard leftovers if they enter the Danger Zone (between 40 and 140 degrees F) for more than two hours.

For more information about food safety, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) or email MPHoline@usda.gov.



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Obituaries

Johnson

Charlie C. “Blackie” Johnson, 88, of Memphis passed away Monday, July 28, 2025, in Memphis. Funeral services were held on Thursday, July 31, 2025, at the Hedley Church of Christ. Burial followed in Rowe Cemetery in Hedley.

Arrangements are under the direction of Robertson Funeral Directors of Memphis.

Blackie was born on January 21, 1937, in Hedley to Walter Cleveland and Gladys Clementine Johnson. He married Shirley Faye Jones on January 17, 1959, in Hollis, Oklahoma. A lifelong resident of Donley County, Blackie moved to Memphis in 1998.

A true cowboy at heart, Blackie spent many years rodeoing, riding broncs and bulls, and later served as a rodeo judge. He also enjoyed attending motocross races with his family to watch his son compete. He worked in real estate and served as a Tax Appraiser for several years, as well as working for many years at Bolin Grain Elevator in Clarendon. While employed at the Paymaster Cotton Oil Mill, he was awarded the prestigious Carnegie Medal of Honor for saving a life.

From 1984 until his retirement in 1998, Blackie served as Donley County Constable. Known for his vibrant personality, he loved his cows, enjoyed teasing friends and neighbors, and was always ready with a prank. He was once recognized as one of the Panhandle’s most colorful characters by the Amarillo Globe-News.

Blackie was also deeply involved in his community. He served as President of both the Clarendon Outdoor Entertainment Association and Memphis Meals on Wheels, and was a member of the Donley County Appraisal District Board of Directors. A devoted member of the Hedley Church of Christ, he led congregational singing for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, W.C. Johnson; and a sister, Velva Gibson.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley Johnson of Memphis; his son, Tom Johnson and wife Carol of Quanah; his daughter, Sherryl Byars and husband Brad of Giles; his grandchildren, Jared Johnson and wife Melissa, Alex Johnson and wife Kelsie, all of Shallowater, Kendra Martin of Memphis, Matt Martin of Giles, and Wacie Decker and husband Shane of Clarendon; step-grandchildren, Kendall Williams and husband Jakob of Childress, Kade Byars and wife Bailee

of Lakeview, and Kye Cogdell and husband Colton of Silverton; 9 great-grandchildren with one on the way; a nephew, Roger Gibson and wife Trudi of Canton, Oklahoma; and numerous other nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The family requests that memorials be made to Memphis Meals on Wheels or Westview Boys Home in Hollis, Oklahoma.

Palmer

Christine (Chris) Jean Paschall Palmer was born under a full moon in Wellington in the early morning hours of September 11, 1954, and passed away peacefully in hospice care in Abilene, Texas on July 24, 2025.

She was preceded in death by her loving parents M.W. (Ike) Paschall Jr. and Alma Jean Green Paschall of Wellington; grandparents M.W. and Florence Paschall of Memphis, Texas; Lewis and Christene Green of Wellington; and niece Tina Paschall Fuller of Amarillo, Texas.

She is survived by daughter Jamie Dawn Palmer Diamond and spouse Rickey of Abilene Texas, son Brian Terry Palmer of Abilene, brother M.W. (Max) Paschall III and spouse Bonnie of Clarendon, Texas; and Rex Paschall of Dallas; 2 nieces, 1 nephew, and a total of 17 first cousins. She is also survived by her former husband, Terry Lynn Palmer of Roby, Texas, the father of their children.

Following graduation from Samnorwood High School in Collingsworth County, Texas, she journeyed to Sweetwater, Texas to

pursue a degree in dental hygiene at Texas State Technical College. One day after school while “out on the town” with her girlfriends she met her future husband, Terry. After a brief courtship the couple soon married taking residence at the old Palmer farm house in the Royston community in Fisher County, Texas, a few years later they relocated into the “city” of Roby at which time the new family was blessed from God with two wonderful children, Jamie and Brian.

In order to better address the special educational needs of Brian and while the children were still young, she relocated her family to Abilene, after which she traveled the state spending tireless hours being an advocate for autistic children. She also was very enthusiastic about Jamie’s ballet and gymnastic pursuits, offering encouragement and ferrying her to multiple statewide competition events.

As the children grew and became more self-reliant she had more free time. This allowed her to work part-time at the Natural Food Center-Restaurant in Abilene where she served-up delicious natural and organic food. Last but not least, throughout her lifetime, she enjoyed tending to her pets as well as playing and teaching the piano.

There will be a Memorial Service on Wednesday, July 30th at 2 pm at Roby Church of Christ with interment following. Burial to follow at Roby Cemetery.

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Palmer

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					3	6		
5					6	1		7
								5
			1			9		
2								4
			7				8	
		3	8			9		
	8	4						2
		9		3	2			7

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7	1	8	2	3	4	7	6	9
2	3	9	7	6	9	7	8	1
7	9	6	5	1	8	3	2	7
9	8	1	7	2	7	9	3	6
6	7	3	9	8	1	7	5	2
9	2	7	6	9	3	1	7	8
1	5	2	8	7	6	7	9	3
3	7	4	1	9	2	5	8	6
8	6	9	8	7	2	2	7	4

ANSWER:

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12
13									14				15
16			17					18					19
20		21				22				23		24	
25					26				27		28		
29				30				31		32		33	
		34	35						36		37		
38	39									40			
41					42				43				
44				45		46		47				48	49
51		52			53		54				55		
56				57		58				59			
60			61		62				63				64
65		66						67				68	
	69								70				

CLUES ACROSS

- Spiritual leaders
- Salt
- Fortified wine
- Edible mollusk
- They precede C
- A way to compare
- State lawyer
- “Game of Thrones” actor Ciaran
- Eighth month (abbr.)
- Very willing
- __ ex machina
- Satisfies
- Mountain in New Zealand
- A doctrine
- Popular Dodge truck model
- Dekagram
- Naturally occurring solid
- Company officer
- Villains
- Cricket frogs
- One of the founders of modern psychology
- Endured
- A female domestic
- You can get stuck in one
- Partner to feather
- Passive optical network
- French ballet dynasty
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Bottom layer
- Sound
- Yankee great Judge
- Dickens character
- Late beloved TNT sportscaster
- South Dakota
- Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- Gold
- Longtime Braves hurler Julio
- Humor
- Shawl
- Hospital unit

CLUES DOWN

- Animal disease
- Commercial
- Necklace materials
- Containers
- Investment account
- Colorado Heisman Trophy winner
- Dipped down
- Head injury category (abbr.)
- Lay about
- Intestinal
- Not yes
- Caused to be loved
- Muslim spiritual leader
- Showing sincere conviction
- Not in
- Number above the line in a fraction
- Lawn pest
- Pouch
- Ancient language in India (abbr.)
- Start over
- Wild white flower
- Fourteen
- Visual way to interact with computer (abbr.)
- Side by side and facing the same way
- Religious conflicts
- Touch lightly
- “Boardwalk Empire” actress Gretchen
- Violent seizure of property
- One who supports the pope
- Malaise
- Body fluid
- Inauthentic person
- Title of respect
- Chilean city
- Japanese city
- Silk garment
- Draw from
- Automobile
- The man
- Top government lawyer

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SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:30 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 5 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
300 S. CARHART • 874-2495
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SUN. 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE
209 S. HAWLEY • 874-2321 • PASTOR: ALLEN POSEY
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• WED.: 7 P.M.

COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
12148 FM 2162 • 874-0963
PASTOR: LARRY CAPRANICA
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED. COMMUNITY KIDZ 5:30 P.M.
WED. ADULT BIBLE STUDY: 6 P.M.

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120 E. THIRD ST. • PASTOR: DR. KEN MCINTOSH
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SUN. SCHOOL: 9:30 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:40 A.M.
WED. BIBLE STUDY: 6:30 P.M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
300 BUGBEE AVE. • 874-3833 • REV. LANCE WOOD
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:55 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • KID'S ACTIVITIES: WED. 6 P.M.
YOUTH STUDY: WED. 7 P.M.
COLLEGE MINISTRY: WED. 9 P.M.

CLARENDON METHODIST CHURCH
420 S. JEFFERSON • 874-3667 • BRO. RYAN QUIST
SUN. SCHOOL: 9:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. YOUTH: 6:00 P.M. • WED. BIBLE STUDY 6:30 P.M.

JESUS NAME APOSTOLIC CHURCH
720 E. MONTGOMERY • REV. 874-2078
REV. CALVIN BURROW
SUN. SERVICES: 3 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

BODY OF CHRIST MINISTRIES:
501 S. MCCLELLAND • PASTOR: R.W. ELLERBROOK
SATURDAY: 6 P.M. • SUNDAY DISCIPLESHIP CLASS: 9:30 A.M.
SUN.: 10:30 A.M. • SUN. LIFE GROUP: 4:30 P.M.
WED.: 6:30 P.M.

CHRIST'S KIDS OUTREACH MINISTRY:
416 S. KEARNEY • 874-2007
SUN. BREAKFAST 9:30 A.M. • SUN. PRAISE & WORSHIP 10 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:30 A.M. • WED.: 5 P.M.

KINGDOM HALL JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
12120 US 287 (JUST WEST OF CLARENDON) • 874-5020
PUBLIC MEETING & WATCHTOWER STUDY: SUN. 10 A.M.
BIBLE STUDY, CONGREGATIONAL THEOCRATIC MINISTRY
SCHOOL & SERVICE MEETING • TUES.: 7 P.M.

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WED.: 7 P.M. (WEATHER PERMITTING)

TRUE CHURCH OF GOD & CHRIST
301 N. JEFFERSON • ST. PASTOR: JEFF RILES
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11:15 A.M.
WED.: 7 P.M.

THE GATHERING
623 W. FOURTH • PHYLLIS COCKERHAM
SUNDAY: 10 A.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

HEDLEY

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110 E. SECOND ST. • MINISTER: STEWART MESSER
SUN. BIBLE CLASS: 10 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 11 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7:30 P.M.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 N. MAIN ST. • PASTOR: STAN COSBY
SUN. SERVICE: 11:00 A.M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
210 N. MAIN ST. • 856-5980 • PASTOR: BRUCE HOWARD
SUN. SCHOOL: 10 A.M. • SUN.: 11 A.M. & 6 P.M.
WED.: 7 P.M.

HOWARDWICK

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235 RICK HUSBAND BLVD. • 874-3326 • REV. JIM FOX
SUN. SCHOOL: 8:45 A.M. • SUN. SERVICE: 10:00 A.M.
SUN. EVENING: 5 P.M. • WED.: 6 P.M.

MARTIN

MARTIN BAPTIST CHURCH
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SUN. EVENING: 6 P.M. • WED.: 7 P.M.

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Demolition continues

Work continues this week on the US 287 bridge between Kearney and Gorst streets with the removal of the southern most portion.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET & PROPOSED TAX RATE

The _____ Hedley Independent School District _____ will hold a public meeting at _____ 6:oop.m., August 18, 2025 _____ in _____ Hedley ISD Board Room in the Superintendent's Office _____ Hedley, TX _____. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ _____ 0.65610 _____/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)

School Debt Service Tax

Approved by Local Voters \$ _____ 0.0000 _____/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations _____ % increase or _____ 0.45 _____ % (decrease)

Debt service _____ 0 _____ % increase or _____ 0 _____ % (decrease)

Total expenditures _____ % increase or _____ 0.45 _____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ _____ 262,041,946	\$ _____ 269,944,144
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ _____ 249,087	\$ _____ 174,755
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ _____ 100,150,481	\$ _____ 104,942,003
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ _____ 104,716	\$ _____ 109,290

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ _____ 0

* Outstanding principal.

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ _____ 0.66920	\$ _____ 0.0000 *	\$ _____ 0.66920	\$ _____ 3,808	\$ _____ 10,433
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ _____ 0.92002	\$ _____ 0.0000 *	\$ _____ 0.92002	\$ _____ 11,440	\$ _____ 10,854
Proposed Rate	\$ _____ 0.65610	\$ _____ 0.0000 *	\$ _____ 0.65610	\$ _____ 8,077	\$ _____ 10,969

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.
The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ _____ 82,039.50	\$ _____ 108,906
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ _____ 11,196.50	\$ _____ 6,672.50
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ _____ 0.66920	\$ _____ 0.65610
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ _____ 74.93	\$ _____ 43.78
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ _____ (31.15)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is _____ 0.65610 _____. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of _____ 0.65610 _____.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) \$ _____ 1,087,636

Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) \$ _____

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.243937 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Clarendon College.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.243937 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.234731 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.254206 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2025 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Clarendon College from the same properties in both the 2024 tax year and the 2025 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Clarendon College may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Clarendon College is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2025 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 21, 2025 AT 5:45 pm AT Clarendon College Bairfield Activity Center VIP Room.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Clarendon College is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Board of Regents of Clarendon College at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount= (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property)/100

FOR the proposal:	Jim Shelton	Lon Adams
	Janice Knorpp	Guy Ellis
	Shaun O'Keefe	Jay Anders
	Clay Montgomery	
AGAINST the proposal: None		
PRESENT and not voting:None		
ABSENT:	Chris Matthews	Carey Wann

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Clarendon College last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Clarendon College this year.

	2024	2025	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.254900	\$0.243937	decrease of -0.010963 per \$100, or -4.30%
Average homestead taxable value	\$72,481	\$84,114	increase of 16.05%
Tax on average homestead	\$184.75	\$205.19	increase of 20.44, or 11.06%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$787,309	\$825,000	increase of 37,691, or 4.79%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Clarendon College at 806-874-3571 or , or visit <https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/> for more information.

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MEETINGS



Clarendon Lodge #700 AF&AM
Stated meeting: Second Mondays,
7:30 p.m. Refreshments at 6:30
p.m. Practice: Fourth Mondays,
7 p.m. Corey Blais - W.M., Russell
Estlack - Secretary. 2 B 1, ASK 1



Clarendon Lions Club Regular
meeting each Tuesday at noon.
Brian Barboza, Boss Lion. Roger
Estlack, Secretary

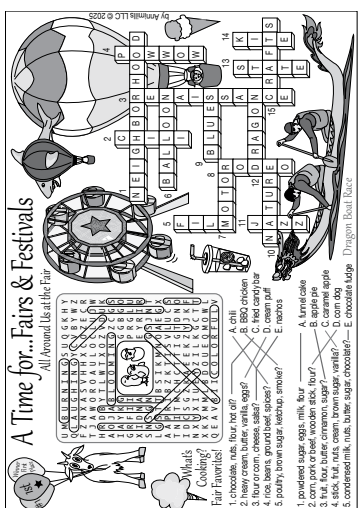
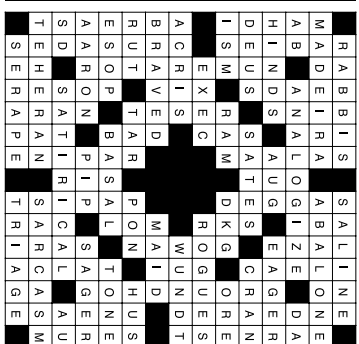


**Clarendon Alcoholics Anony-
mous Group** 806-661-1015,
806-671-9766, 806-205-1840,
24 hour hotline 877-421-4334.
Mon. & Sat. 7 p.m. 416 S Kear-
ney St.

Clarendon Chamber of Commerce Regular
Board of Directors meeting third Tuesday
each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Clarendon
Visitor Center.

FACILITIES AVAILABLE - Family Reunions,
Receptions, Business Meetings, Club Func-
tions, and more. Clarendon Lions Hall, 111 W.
Fourth. Call 874-2259 for rental information.

PUZZLE SOLUTION



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD toll-free at 1-800-677-8777. The toll-free telephone number of the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saints' Roost Museum
610 East Harrington
Tuesday - Saturday
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Open for appointments.
Call 874-2746.

HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF HEDLEY is now accepting applications for City Secretary. Application available at City Hall 109 Main Street. The City of Hedley is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

BEST WESTERN PLUS RED RIVER INN in Clarendon, TX is taking applications for a Housekeeping Attendant. The ideal candidate will be dependable and have a positive attitude. Starting pay is \$12 per hour. Raises (up to \$15 per hour) will be based on performance and reliability. Uniforms provided. Paid vacation. Pool and fitness center privileges. Pleasant environment. The hours are generally 8am to 3pm five days a week including most week-ends. Please apply in person.

BEST WESTERN PLUS RED RIVER INN is taking applications for a FRONT DESK AGENT. The ideal candidate will be friendly and enjoy meeting people from all over the world while earning \$12-\$16 per hour. Raises based on performance. Uniforms provided. Pool and fitness center privileges included. Paid vacation. Positive and pleasant work environment. The hours will be 3pm-11 pm Thursday & Friday and 11 pm-7am Saturday & Sunday. Must be dependable and have transportation. Please apply in person.

CLARENDON ISD IS HIRING for a full-time Custodian, a Paraprofessional, and a part-time bus driver. Please visit www.clarendonisd.net for more details. Applications can be picked up from the CISD Administration Office or printed from the Clarendon ISD website (support staff application). Completed applications can be returned to the CISD Administration Office. Fingerprinting and the clearance of a nationwide criminal history check are required. If you have any questions, please call 806-310-7220, Mon-Thurs 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

HEDLEY SENIOR CITIZENS is looking for a part time Cooks Helper. Hours are 8 - 1:30 Monday and 8:30-1:30 Tuesday-Friday with weekends off. Please come to the Center for an application at 112 Main Street, Hedley.

LEGAL NOTICE

CLARENDON COLLEGE is soliciting proposals for artificial field turf for the baseball field on the campus of Clarendon College. Proposals are to be received in the Athletic Office, PO Box 968, 1122 College Drive, Clarendon College, Clarendon, Texas 79226, faxed to (806) 874-1498 or emailed to mark.james@clarendoncollege.edu. Proposals must be received by 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 14, 2025 (the "due date"). Clarendon College reserves the right to reject any or all bids/proposals and to waive technicalities. For questions and specifications regarding this request, contact Mark James, Director of Athletics, Clarendon College (806) 874-4833 or mark.james@clarendoncollege.edu. Estimated date of award: August 21, 2025.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE - THE STATE OF TEXAS - COUNTY OF DONLEY. By virtue of Orders of Sale issued out of the Judicial District Court of DONLEY County in the following cases on the 28th day of July 2025 and the 4th of August 2025 and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell at 2:00 P.M. on the 2nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025, which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the OFFICIAL door of the Courthouse of said DONLEY County, in the City of Clarendon, Texas, the following described property located in DONLEY County, to-wit:

Cause No. DTX-17-07338, CLARENDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND/OR C.E.D #25 FOR CLARENDON ISD vs. SHERIDAN GRANT

Tract 1: GEO: 13-01-0300-0400-0001
LOT #40 Peyton Place, Sherwood Shores, Howard-
wick, Texas
Tract 2: GEO: 13-01-0320-0590-0001
LOT #59 Pueblo, Sherwood Shores, Howard-
wick, Texas

Cause No. DTX-19-07500, DONLEY COUNTY vs. RIPPETOE, NEOMA

Tract 1: GEO: 11-12-0220-0110-0001
All of the North one-half (N/2) of Lot No. Eleven (11) and all of Lots Nos. Twelve (12), Thirteen (13) and Fourteen (14), in Block No. Twenty-two (22), of Wasson's Sub-division of Block No. 13, of McLean's Addition to the Town of Clarendon, Donley County, Texas

Cause No. DTX-21-07613, DONLEY COUNTY vs. STRINGER-LUND, CHARLES E.

Tract 1: GEO: 12-02-0010-0030-0001
All of Lots Nos. Three (3) and Four (4), in Block No. One (1), Nat Smith Addition to the Town of Hedley, Donley County, Texas

Cause No. DTX-23-07764, DONLEY COUNTY vs JARAMILLO, NATHAN

Tract 1: GEO: 12-01-0020-0160-0001
All of Lot No. 16, in Block No. 2, in the original Town of Hedley, Donley County, Texas, according to the recorded map or plat thereof on file in the County Clerk's Office of Donley County, Texas.

Cause No. DTX-23-07811, DONLEY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT vs GUILLEN, JOSE SANTANA

Tract 1: GEO: 12-01-0220-0070-0001
All of Lots Nos. Seven (7) and Eight (8), all in Block No. Twenty-two (22), in the Original Town of Hedley, Donley County, Texas, as shown on the recorded map or plat thereof.

Cause No. DTX-23-07820, DONLEY COUNTY vs SMITH, JOE

Tract 1: GEO: 13-01-0240-1330-0001
All of Lot No(s) 133 Nocona Hills an addition to the City of Howardwick, Donley County, Texas, as shown by a map recorded in Volume 169, Page 57 of the Plat Records of Donley County, Texas

Cause No. DTX-23-07832, DONLEY COUNTY vs LOVELADY, HAROLD

Tract 1: GEO: 13-01-0140-1400-0001
All of Lot(s) 140 & 141 Country Club Central Section, of Sherwood Shores IX, situated in Donley County, Texas

ALL BIDDERS MUST REGISTER WITH THE TAX OFFICE PRIOR TO SHERIFF'S SALE.

Levied on the 28th day of July 2025 and the 4th of August 2025 as the property of said Defendants to satisfy the judgments rendered in the above styled and numbered causes, plus all taxes, penalties, interest, and attorney fees accrued to the date of sale and all costs

LEGAL NOTICE

recoverable by law in favor of each jurisdiction. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 28th DAY OF JULY 2025 AND THE 4TH OF AUGUST 2025.
CHARLES H. BLACKBURN, JR.
Sheriff, DONLEY County, Texas

SMALL TAXING UNIT NOTICE

The **DONLEY COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT** will hold a tax rate meeting at 5:30 p.m. on August 13, 2025, at 3 Medical Drive Clarendon, Texas 79226 to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2025. The proposed tax rate is 0.1600 per \$100 of value. The public is invited. Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property. The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

SMALL TAXING UNIT NOTICE

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING AND HEARING, AUGUST 12, 2025 AT 6:00 PM TO CONSIDER THE **CITY OF HOWARDWICK** PROPOSED 2025-26 BUDGET AND PROPOSED VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE OF \$0.380147 PER \$100 OF VALUE.

The City of Howardwick will hold the Public Meeting/Hearing on August 12, 2025 at 6pm at City Hall, 245 Rick Husband Blvd, Howard-
wick. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the budget for 2025-2026 and the 2025 tax rate which will be adopted. The public is welcome. Visit texas.gov/propertytaxes to find a link to our local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property. The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CELCO PARTNERSHIP and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless is reviewing an existing 382 ft (overall height 400 ft) guyed telecommunications tower for the purpose of updating National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documentation to support a proposed project to install antennas at a centerline height of 365 ft with associated equipment. The existing tower is located at 4700 US Hwy 287, Hedley, Donley County, TX 79237 (34°48'15.98", -100°36'12.3098"). Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30-days from the date of this publication to: Sapiro Tsukioka, GSS, Inc, sttsukioka@gssmidwest.com, 1054 Texan Tr, Ste 300, Grapevine, TX 76051, 682.651.0034 (D25080-32-TX)

LEGAL NOTICES

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TexSCAN Week of
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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-855-808-4152 today.

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Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-704-8579 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

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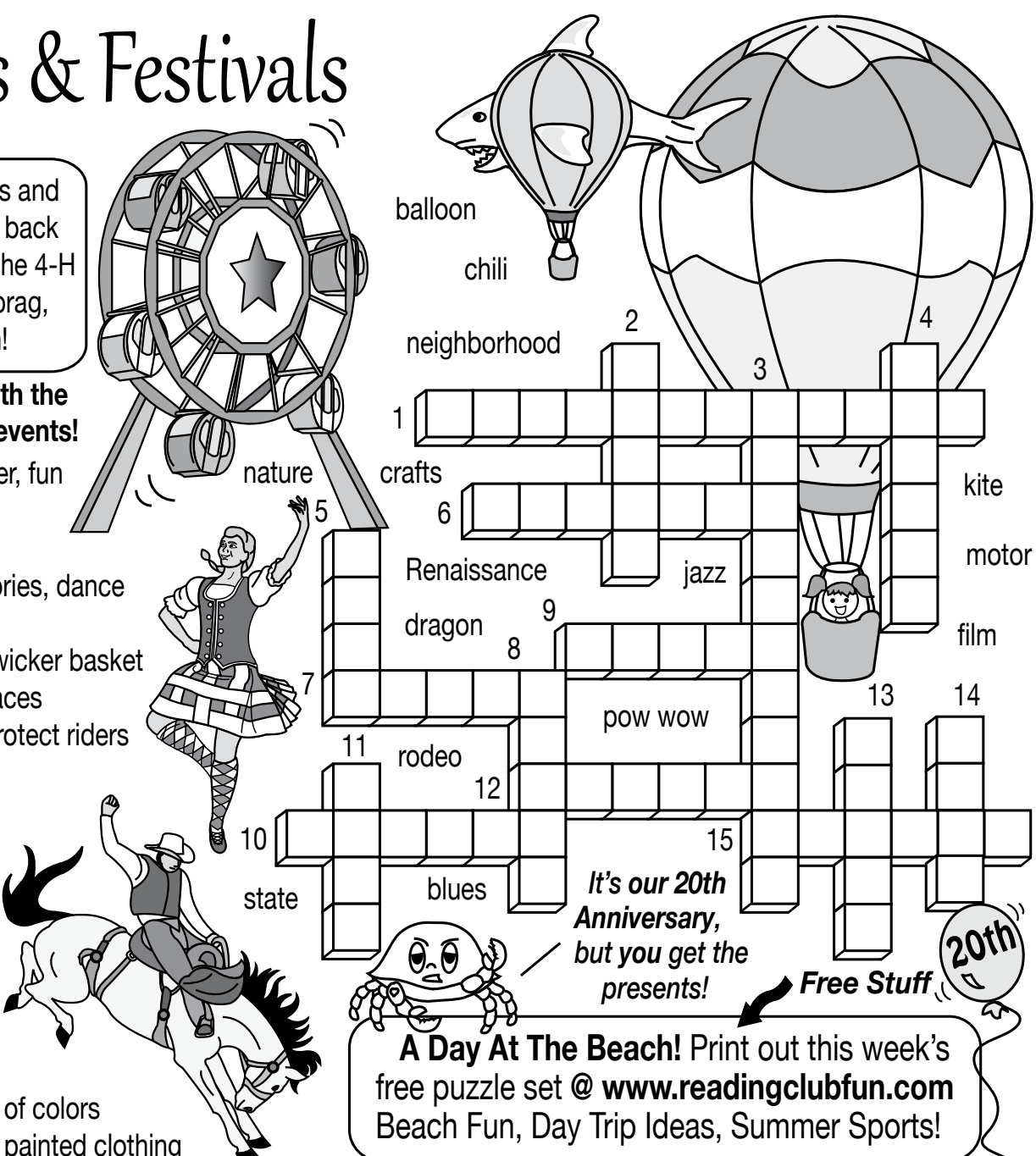
Kids: color stuff in!

A Time for...Fairs & Festivals

Late summer is a big time for exciting fairs and festivals. The weather is nice and people are back from vacations and traveling. I competed in the 4-H competition at our state's fair. I don't like to brag, but I did win first place – and a purple ribbon!

Read the clues to fill in the crossword with the names of fairs, festivals and other exciting events!

1. street closed off; people get together to grill, share potluck dinner, fun
2. spicy food cook-off; taste a few and vote for your favorite
3. relives medieval times; dress in costumes; watch knights joust
4. celebrates Native American history and culture; enjoy music, stories, dance
5. shows movies made by students or small creative companies
6. hot air _____ festival, picnic; people take to the sky using wicker basket
7. _____ sports festival; engines rev; shiny chrome; speedy races
8. cowboys show off their riding and roping skills; skilled clowns protect riders
9. _____ and BBQ festivals bring together food and music from Mississippi Delta, TX, NC and TN (Memphis) style
10. teaches us about animals, plants in our environment
11. celebrates the smoky music played with trumpets, pianos, saxophones and guitars
12. _____ Boat and Asian festivals have races with crews in long boats decorated to look like fire-breathing creatures
13. this fair covers larger area of towns and cities; rides, games, concerts, treats, fireworks, contests, crafts
14. hundreds of custom canvases fly on strings; turns sky into sea of colors
15. artists sell their creative ideas turned into items: baskets, hand painted clothing



It's our 20th Anniversary, but you get the presents!

Free Stuff

A Day At The Beach! Print out this week's free puzzle set @ www.readingclubfun.com
Beach Fun, Day Trip Ideas, Summer Sports!

Pantex breaks ground on new Environmental Sampling Facility

The skyline at Pantex continues to change with the addition of the new Environmental Sampling Facility. Replacing the existing space used for Environmental Project's sampling, well maintenance activities, and Industrial Hygiene's Field Sampling Lab, the 11,000-square-foot facility will move the labs closer to the people and infrastructure they support — adding much-needed storage for samples and lab instruments.

The Environmental Sampling Facility, with an estimated investment of approximately \$28 million, will provide two new labs, office space, and a parking lot.

"This facility will be extremely beneficial to the people in Environmental and Industrial Hygiene," Environment, Safety, and Health Division Director Harry Gulley said. "Both groups will be housed in a centralized location on plant site, which will improve efficiency

by having equipment and teams in one place. This groundbreaking is exciting for ES&H as we continue safely serving Pantex's mission."

The new Industrial Hygiene lab will be used to process samples from all areas of the plant to ensure the safety of Pantexans.

Lab personnel play a key role in overseeing personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements and closely monitor plant operations for safety.

The Sampling and Analysis Lab will support sampling on- and off-site for Environmental Projects, Environmental Compliance, and Waste Operations — ensuring that Pantex complies with environmental regulations and DOE requirements.

"It takes a lot of people doing many different things to make sure every unit meets a very high set of standards," PanTeXas Deterrence President and General Manager Kelly Beierschmitt said. "Investing

in our facilities is also investing in our people. We take great pride in our people. We expect them to safely perform at the highest level to deliver the mission with excellence."

"The construction of the Environmental Sampling Facility is an investment in Pantex's future," Pantex Field Office Manager Jason Armstrong said. "This facility will provide us with the tools and resources we need to strengthen our environmental stewardship, protect our workforce, and support our national security mission. We are confident that this facility will have a positive and lasting impact on Pantex, our community, and the environment."

Other construction projects currently underway or in the planning stages include the High Explosives Science and Engineering Facility; the High Explosives Synthesis, Formulation, and Production Facility; and the newly funded Gas Lab.



The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting August 5, 2025, with Boss Lion Brian Barboza wielding the gavel.

We had 11 Lions present, two attending virtually, and two guests, Butch Brown, guest of Lion Ted Shaller, and Todd Looney, who presented our program.

Mr. Looney discussed the AirMedCare Network, which is comprised of LifeStar and several other life flight services throughout the country. The network offers individuals, families, and businesses a membership. For a low annual fee, people are guaranteed to be able to fly LifeStar and its sister services at no charge in the event of a medical emergency. See airmedcarenetwork.com for more information.

There being no further business, we were adjourned.

Donley County Senior Citizens
50th Anniversary
Celebration & Fund-raiser

August 16, 2025
5:00p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
115 E. 4th Street
Clarendon, TX

DINNER & SHOW
\$ Donations \$
Potato Bar
Music
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CookBook For Sale

CC athletes earn NJCAA academic recognition

Clarendon College athletic teams earned All-Academic recognitions from the NJCAA for the 2024-2025 season.

Women's Basketball finished second in the country with a team GPA of 3.82. Fourteen of the 15 young ladies on the active roster qualified for either First (9), Second (1), or Third (4) Team Recognition.

Baseball finished number eight in the country with a team GPA of 3.66. Twenty of the 33 young men on the active roster qualified for either First (10), Second (6) or Third (4) Team Recognition.

Volleyball finished number 20 in the country with a team GPA of 3.67. Ten of the 17 young ladies on the active roster qualified for either First (6) or Third (4) Team Recognition.

Men's Basketball completed the year with a team GPA of 3.11. Three of the 15 young men on the active

roster qualified for either Second (2) or Third (1) Team Recognition.

Softball completed the year with a year GPA of 3.27. Four of the 14 young ladies on the active roster qualified for either First (1), Second (1) or Third (2) Team Recognition.

Overall Athletics had 51 of Clarendon's 94 (54%) active roster student-athletes qualify for either First (26), Second (10), or Third (15) NJCAA All-Academic Team Recognition.

The overall GPA for the five sports in the CC Athletic Department for the 2024-2025 Academic Year was a 3.54.

All NJCAA First Team recipients earned a GPA this Academic Year of 4.0. Those on the NJCAA Second Team earned a GPA this Academic Year of 3.80-3.99. The NJCAA Third Team are individuals with a GPA this Academic Year of 3.60-3.79.



The Clarendon Lions Club held its regular Tuesday noon meeting July 29, 2025, with Boss Lion Brian Barboza in command.

We had twelve Lions present and two guests, Jeff Caffey and Stan Caffey

Stan Caffey spoke about his years of experience as a head football coach and having Jeff as his assistant coach. The father-son duel has been working well for them as they built a name for themselves while at Springlake-Earth. He once took a position in Claude, and the first game was against Clarendon, Claude won 43-13. While here they want to instill good ethics into the program.

Jeff, who is CCISD's new athletic director, expressed his interest in becoming a coach and how exciting it has been getting to have his father as his assistant coach. Kids and small town culture are what drew him to Clarendon.

After living in a big city, Coach Caffey appreciates the value the community has and what it means for him meeting the folks. Coach Caffey has a full coaching staff, and the first game is August 29 against Panhandle.

Lion Ted Shaller mentioned to the club that Christ Kids is accepting any donation to help with school supplies, there are roughly 100 kids, and Lion Chris Reuter explained how Bridges to Life Program is looking for individuals who will volunteer a couple of hours during Sunday to help parolees who are transitioning back into society.

There being no further business, we adjourned to spread Lionism and good cheer throughout our fair county.

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